

WISHA REGIONAL DIRECTIVE

WISHA Services

Department of Labor and Industries

2.20

TARGETING WISHA ACTIVITIES (LOCAL EMPHASIS PROGRAMS)

Date: May 2, 2001

I. Background

In order to ensure the best use of WISHA resources, WISHA consultation and enforcement staff target both inspection activities and the marketing of consultation activities. As part of the ongoing WISHA Performance Plan, developed as part of our state plan agreement with the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), WISHA has committed to rigorous application of our targeting protocols. The overall targeting strategy also allows for a percentage of a region's planned activities to be conducted as part of a local emphasis program, developed and implemented by the region.

II. Scope and Application

This WISHA Regional Directive (WRD), which replaces and rescinds WISHA Interim Operations Memorandum #98-6-I, will remain in effect indefinitely. It provides guidance to WISHA enforcement and consultation staff regarding development and approval of local emphasis programs.

III. Special Enforcement and Consultation Protocols

A. How much of a region's enforcement resources can be devoted to "local emphasis" programs?

Each region may devote up to 20 percent of its discretionary inspection resources ("planned" inspections) to one or more "local emphasis" programs (LEPs). This does not include local emphases that operate within the existing targeting protocols (for example, an emphasis *within* a high-hazard industry such as agriculture or construction).

B. What are the criteria for local emphasis programs?

LEPs must include a documented rationale and strategy. Factors to be considered could include opportunities for local partnership with other enforcement entities or with local business and/or labor organizations, unique local conditions, unique regional expertise in relation to certain hazards and/or types of hazards, etc.

C. What is the process to submit an LEP for approval?

LEPs must be approved in writing by WISHA P&TS before implementation.

WISHA P&TS will respond, in writing, to any written proposal for a local emphasis program within 10 working days of submission to the WISHA P&TS management analyst responsible for enforcement activities. The written proposal must include the following information:

- Purpose and/or rationale (see 1.a above);
- Duration;
- Manner and frequency of evaluation of results;
- Complete criteria for selection of employers (for example, SIC, injury/illness rate, etc.);
- Impact on unprogrammed inspections of the same employer;
- In what manner and how often the list of employers will be updated;
- How flexible the region's use of the list will be (opportunity for supervisory exclusions based on recency, number of employees, etc.).

Approved: _____

Michael Wood

Senior Program Manager for WISHA Policy & Technical Services

For further information about this or other WISHA Regional Directives, you may contact WISHA Policy & Technical Services at P.O. Box 44648, Olympia, WA 98504-4648 -- or by telephone at (360)902-5503. You also may review policy information on the WISHA Website (<http://www.wa.gov/lni/wisha>).